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Appl. No. 09/993,366 Amdt. dated Reply to Office Action of August 8, 2006

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action of August 8, 2006, Applicants request re-examination and reconsideration of this application for patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 132.

**Telephone Conference**

Applicants thank Examiner McKelvey for courtesies extended to Applicants' representative, Katharine Davis Wong, in the telephone conference of January 31, 2007.

The method recited in claim 39 was discussed in this conference.

**Claim Status/Support for Amendments**

Claim 39 has been amended. Claim 40 has been cancelled. Claims 2-38 were cancelled in a previous response (filed on September 22, 2003). Claims 1, 39 and 41-46 remain pending in the instant application and are currently under examination.

No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims made herein.

Claim 39 has been amended to clarify that the reference mass spectral profile referred to in step (c) of claim 39 is the mass spectral profile of the claimed peptide (claim 1) having an ion peak at about 1311.7061 daltons. This mass spectral profile is

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shown in Figure 2 and described at pages 37, lines 5-6 and page 46, lines 4-11 of the specification as originally filed.

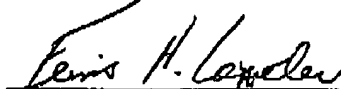
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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner will now find the claims of the application allowable. Favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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